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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/621,882	07/17/2003	Hem P. Takiar	SAND-01004US0	3084

7590 01/13/2006

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EXAMINER

CHANG, RICK KILTAE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3729

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant failed to properly elect distinct species in the last Office Action. Upon further consideration, the following restriction requirement is deemed necessary due to improper dependency of product claims 35-37 to method claim 32. Claims 35-37 lack positive manipulative steps, and they have been grouped together with product claims 38-46.

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 32-34 and 47-51, drawn to a method of manufacturing a peripheral card, classified in class 29, subclass 593.
 - II. Claims 35-46, drawn to a peripheral card, classified in class 439, subclass 60.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions of Group I and of Group II are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process such as one that applies a conformal contact coating by injection molding.
3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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4. If the applicant elected Group I, the applicant is required to elect one of the following distinct species of the claimed invention, as disclosed below since Group I contain claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

COVERING MEANS:

Species 1: a liquid.

Species 2: a film.

Species 3: a transfer mold process.

SEPARTING:

Species a: prior to applying step.

Species b: after applying step.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species (Species a, 2 or 3 from COVERING MEANS; and Species a or b from SEPARTING) for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Conclusion


7. **Please provide reference numerals (either in parentheses next to the claimed limitation or in a table format with one column listing the claimed limitation and another column listing corresponding reference numerals in the remark section of the response to the Office Action) to all the claimed limitations as well as support in the disclosure for better clarity (optional). Applicants are duly reminded that a full and proper response to this Office Action that includes any amendment to the claims and specification of the**

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application as originally filed requires that the applicant point out the support for any amendment made to the disclosure, including the claims. See 37 CFR 1.111 and MPEP 2163.06.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rick K. Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-4564. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Monday through Thursday.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (571) 273-8300 for regular communications and (571) 273-8300 for After Final communications.



RICHARD CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

RC
January 10, 2006